

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 INR-11 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6259

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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CINCPAC

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, KS, KN, JA, IPU

SUBJECT: ROK DELEGATION IPU SPEECH

REF: A. TOKYO 12837 B. SEOUL 5382 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. ACCORDING TO ROK PRESS, WHICH HAS GIVEN MAJOR COVERAGE TO HIS REMARKS, CHIEF OF ROK IPU DELEGATION PARK CHUN-KYU USED OCCASION OF HIS ADDRESS TO IPU MEETING TO PROPOSE GENERAL ELECTION ON KOREAN PENINSULA. REPORTEDLY DIRECTING HIS REMARKS TO NORTH KOREA, PARK PROPOSED THAT THE ELECTION TAKE PLACE AFTER PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE BETWEEN NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA HAD BEEN ATTAINED THROUGH PEACEFUL COOPERATION AND OPEN DOOR POLICY TOWARD EACH OTHER. HE SPECIFICALLY CALLED ON THE NORTH TO ACCEPT THE NONAGGRESSION PACT PROPOSED BY PRESIDENT PARK IN JANUARY OF THIS YEAR AND TO RESUME THE SOUTH-NORTH DIALOGUE IMMEDIATELY AND UNCONDITIONALLY.

2. CHIEF DELEGATE PARK ALSO INVITED NORTH KOREAN DELEGATES TO COME TO SEOUL EN ROUTE BACK FROM MEETING IN TOKYO. SOME ROK PAPERS HEADLINED INVITATION, WHILE

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NOTING THAT NORTH KOREAN DELEGATE SUBSEQUENTLY HAD

REJECTED IT, BUT MEDIA GENERALLY CONCENTRATED ON ELECTION PROPOSAL. NORTH KOREAN SPEECH GOT SPARSE COVERAGE BY PRESS, WHICH ALSO BRIEFLY NOTED NORTH KOREANS' REMARKS TO TOKYO PRESS (REF A). PRESS ALSO COMMENTED THAT "CONCILIATORY" TONE OF PARK'S SPEECH HAD SURPRISED THE NORTH KOREANS, WHO AS A RESULT ATTEMPTED TO SOFTEN THEIR OWN PRESENTATION CALLING FOR WITHDRAWAL OF US TROOPS FROM ROK.

3. COMMENT: PARK CHUN-KYU'S PRESENTATION IS RESTATEMENT OF PROPOSALS MADE BY PRESIDENT PARK ON AUG. 15 (REF B). IN NATIONAL LIBERATION DAY ADDRESS SUBSEQUENTLY OBSCURED BY ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, PRESIDENT HAD PROPOSED KOREA-WIDE ELECTIONS TO FOLLOW OPENING OF DOORS BETWEEN TWO KOREAS THROUGH MANY-SIDED EXCHANGES. HE HAD PREFACED THIS PROPOSAL WITH CALL FOR NONAGGRESSION PACT AND CONTINUATION OF DIALOGUE. IPU ADDRESS APPEARS TO BE ATTEMPT BY ROK TO RETRIEVE MILEAGE LOST WHEN EARLIER FLOATING OF THE PROPOSAL WAS BURIED IN COVERAGE OF ASSASSINATION.
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